

B3 33b C5 13. (Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of partially denaturing [wherein] the collagen containing tissue site [is partially denatured] by cleaving heat labile cross-links of collagen molecules.

22. (Amended) An apparatus for applying energy to a skin surface with a wrinkle, comprising:

an identification means for detecting a skin surface with a wrinkle;

an electrolytic media means configured to transfer RF energy to the skin surface;

an electrolytic media delivery means adapted to receive the electrolytic media and release the electrolytic media to a skin surface;

B4 an RF electrode means coupled to the electrolytic media means, wherein the RF electrode means transfers energy to the electrolytic media means and the electrolytic media means delivers energy to the skin surface to create a controlled cell necrosis and reduce a depth of the wrinkle.

23. (Amended) The apparatus [method] of claim 22, wherein the electrolytic media is an electrolytic solution.

24. (Amended) The apparatus [method] of claim 22, wherein the electrolytic media is an electrolytic gel.

B5 33. (Amended) The apparatus of claim 22, further comprising:
a sensor means configured to measure a thermal property coupled to the skin surface.

Please add the following new claims:

1 61. The apparatus of claim 22, wherein the electrolytic media delivery
2 means is a porous membrane.

B6 1 62. The apparatus of claim 61, wherein the porous membrane has
2 zones of decreased porosity.

1 63. The apparatus of claim 62, wherein the zones of decreased porosity
2 are substantially positioned around the RF electrode.

1 64. The apparatus of claim 63, wherein the zones of decreased porosity
2 create an enhanced electrode.

1 65. The apparatus of claim 22, further comprising a focusing element
2 coupled to the porous membrane.

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1 66. The apparatus of claim 65, wherein the focusing element comprises
2 one or more focusing coils.

1 67. The apparatus of claim 65 wherein the focusing element and
2 electrolytic media are configured to create a reverse thermal gradient in a tissue site.

1 68. The apparatus of claim 62, further comprising a focusing element
2 coupled to the porous membrane.

1 69. The apparatus of claim 63, further comprising a focusing element
2 coupled to the porous membrane.

REMARKS

Claims 1-60 are pending in this application. Claims 61-69 are newly presented.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112

Claims 22-34 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the art that the inventors had possession of the claimed invention. Claims 1-60 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. The examiner states that in claim 1 the meaning of the term "surface in contact" is unclear; In claims 2-14 it is unclear what further method steps the recited structure is supposed to imply; in claim 22 the "electrolytic media means" and "RF electrode means" lack